

Being A Disciple... It's Not Just A Fan Club!

LEARNING ABOUT YOU: SCRIPTURE

UNIT
2
LESSON
THREE

From Our Hearts to God

Jesus, you are the way, the truth, and the light. Guide me. Amen.

MY WORLD

Wow, to be a fan! How long does this sort of commitment last? Until the next popular group or singer comes along? Until you get to the highest level? Your whole life?

Jesus had fans. They followed him about and listened to every word he said. They didn't get his autograph, but they did ask for things – healing, lessons, answers.

Many of Jesus' followers were more than fans. They didn't think he was just another teacher or person who could save them from their Roman rulers. They recognized Jesus as God in human form. They saw Jesus as the Messiah, the savior. They knew he was the greatest teacher and they wanted to learn from him. They became his disciples, his students. And when Jesus left us, his disciples went out into the world to teach others what Jesus had taught them and to spread the Good News that the Kingdom of Heaven is there for us after this life is finished.

Fans get their information through videos, websites, and magazines. Followers of Jesus learn about him through the Bible and the Church.





Getting Closer to God

Read the following Bible passages about the teacher Jesus and answer the questions below.

1. Matthew 14:22-27
 2. Matthew 14:28-33
 3. Matthew 15:10-11
 4. Matthew 18:1-5
 5. Matthew 22:35-40
- a. In which passage did Jesus teach us to have faith in him?

- b. In which passage did Jesus teach us two rules to always follow? _____
- c. In which passage did Jesus teach us not to be afraid?

- d. In which passage did Jesus teach us to be as humble as a child? _____
- e. In which passage did Jesus teach us to be careful of what we say? _____

The Bible tells us what God wants us to know about him and how to live a God-pleasing, Christ-centered life. We learn about what Jesus did and what he will always do for us. When we read about people and events in the Bible we learn more about God and what he wants for us.



Our Armenian Way

Thaddeus and Bartholomew, two of Jesus' disciples, came to Armenia to pass on to the Armenian people what Jesus had taught them. They made disciples of many Armenians who, in turn, taught others. In this way Christianity spread throughout Armenia.

Who is called the "Second Enlightener" of Armenia? Clue: He made Armenia officially Christian in 301 A.D.

Our Catholicos, bishops, priests, parents and Sunday School teachers are Jesus' disciples today, passing on to us the great teachings of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. And you are a disciple, too.

Below are 5 lessons Jesus and then his disciples taught. If you had to teach them to someone else, which would you teach first? Second? Last? Put number 1 next to the first lesson you would teach and number the rest using number 5 for the last lesson.



- Love God. (Matthew 22:37-40)
- Always be ready for God when he comes again. (Matthew 25:1-13)
- Take care of others. (Luke 10: 25-37)
- Forgive others as God forgives you. (Matthew 6:9-15)
- Show your parents respect and obedience and love. (Ephesians 6: 1-3)
- Treat others the way you want to be treated. (Matthew 7:12)

Now pick one lesson and think about how you would teach it to a younger brother or sister. Try being a disciple!



Taking a Closer Look

Before Jesus ascended to heaven he told his disciples another Person would come to help them. (Acts 1:8) The Holy Spirit would be their inner voice of God. The Holy Spirit is with us also. Every Sunday we remember the Holy Spirit in our Creed: "We believe also in the Holy Spirit, the uncreate and the perfect, who spoke through the Law and through the Prophets and through the Gospels; who came down upon the Jordan, preached through the apostles, and dwelled in the saints."

Look at these other names or titles for the Holy Spirit:

Comforter John 14:16

Truth John 14:17

Promise Ephesians 1:13

Wisdom and understanding Isaiah 11:2

Counsel and might Isaiah 11:2

Fire Acts 2:3

Grace Hebrews 10:29



Time to Celebrate

The Bible is the very foundation of the Holy Tradition of the Armenian Church. We show love and respect for the Bible in many ways in our church. We hold the Gospel Book with a cloth so we don't dirty it. We place the Gospel Book on the altar along with the cross and candles and holy picture. We have a special procession when the deacon carries the Gospel Book around the altar while we sing *Soorp Asdvadz*. The person who will read from the Bible in church comes up to the Gospel Book and kisses it at the end of the procession.



GOD'S GUIDING WORDS

"I do have faith! Please help me to have even more."
Mark 9:24



RESPONDING IN FAITH

Let me read your holy book, Lord, and learn from you. Amen.

FAMILY CORNER

Sharing Our Faith

Today we learned that being a fan of Jesus in the church is like no other fan club! It's about a life-long relationship in which we will learn and grow and then share the good news with others. Students looked up specific teachings of Jesus in the Bible which is the foundation of our faith and a great treasure for us. We even discussed how we might read it more diligently.

Living Our Faith

During this week at home try one or two of the following activities to reinforce the lesson that we are disciples of Jesus.

1. Make a chart of things Jesus taught you. Let everyone in the family contribute one statement to the chart.
2. Read a Bible story one night this week and talk about the lesson it teaches.